

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 11, 2005 has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-50 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 19, 32, and 40 are independent. Claims 1-18 and 32-39 have been allowed, claims 19-31 and 40-50 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Allowable Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-18 and 32-39 are allowed, and that claims 20-23, 30-31, and 41-48 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As Applicants will show below, claims 20-23, 30-31, and 41-48 should be allowed in their present form, at least because the independent claims from which they depend should be allowable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

The Office Action rejected claims 19, 24, 40, and 49-50 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). As being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,864,860 (Holmes). The Office Action cited col. 3, ll. 2-10, and col. 4, ll. 13-16, 21-25, 37-43, and 44-56 of Holmes as teaching all the elements of claims 19 and 40. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 19, upon which claims 20-31 are dependent, is directed to a method of communicating, comprising classifying at least one item of a current list containing a plurality of items by comparing the current list with a reference list containing a plurality of items. Based upon the classifying of the at least one item of the current list, a

compressed list is formed, including the at least one item. The compressed list is then transmitted.

Independent claim 40, upon which claims 41-50 are dependent, is directed to a device for communicating information. The device comprises a processor for classifying at least one item of a current list containing a plurality of items by comparing the current list with a reference list containing a plurality of items, and based upon the classifying of the at least one item of the current list forming a compressed list including the at least one item. A transmitter is provided, for transmitting the compressed list.

As a result of the claimed configuration of elements, the method and apparatus is provided which can effectively and efficiently create and transmit a compressed list of items relating to communication of data grams such as packets. As will be discussed below, the prior art failed to disclose or suggest the elements of the presently pending claims, and therefore fails to provide the critical and unobvious advantages mentioned above.

Holmes relates to compression of structured data. Specifically, as explained in cols. 3-4, Holmes relates to data compression in the area of delimited text databases. For example, each row (or record) of data will contain a set of fields delimited from each other by a character. Holmes discloses comparing a field of a current record with a corresponding field of a previous record. Holmes suggests creating a compressed form of the current record based on the current row. The compressed form of the current record is the same as the current record except that, if the contents of a field of the current record

are identical to that of the corresponding field in the previous record, a single character (such as a ".") is used in place of the contents. When all of the fields have been compared and (if appropriate) compressed, the compressed form of the current record is passed to the client.

In other words, in Holmes, a token is sent if the contents in a current record match the contents in a previous record. Holmes appears to be designed for a situation involving structured data, not lists. For example, Holmes determines whether there is a match, as opposed to determining and encoding a difference. Holmes also does not appear to teach a mechanism for encoding the addition, removal, or change of an item.

Independent claims 19 and 40 recite, among other things, a step and/or a processor which performs a step of "classifying at least one item of a current list containing a plurality of items by comparing the current list with a reference list containing a plurality of items." These features are not taught by Holmes. For example, Holmes' comparison is not performed as part of "classifying" as claimed. As illustrated in the specification of the present application at p. 2, ll. 14-15, the ordinary meaning of "classifying" is "determining a type of classification." For example, the classification may be (but is not required to be) a classification as belonging to "one of plurality of transformation cases," as illustrated in the specification of the present application at p. 21, ll. 19-20.

Furthermore, the way the claimed "item" can be classified by comparing lists of items does not precisely correspond to the way the "fields" of Holmes are compared. For example, Holmes identifies whether the contents of a field are the same in a current

record as in a previous record, as shown in Col. 4, ll. 39-53. As illustrated in Claim 28 of the present application, however, an "item" is distinguishable from the "content of at least one item."

Claim 24 depends from claim 19, and thus is patentable for at least the reasons of claim 19.

Claims 49-50 depend from claim 41. Because the Office Action indicates that claim 41 contains allowable subject matter, claims 49-50 should be patentable for at least the reasons that claim 41 is patentable. Additionally, claim 41, in turn, depends from claim 40, and thus is patentable for at least the reasons of claim 40.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 25-29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holmes in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,535,925 of Svanbro et al. ("Svanbro"). The Office Action cites col. 5, l. 15 - col. 8, line 63 of Svanbro as teaching the additional limitations of claims 25-29. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Svanbro relates to packet header compression using division remainders. Specifically, in cols. 5-8, Svanbro describes a header compression (Figure 3), time stamp compression (Figure 4), time stamp decompression (Figures 5 and 7), and header decompression (Figure 6). Svanbro recommends using conventional header compression techniques augmented by separately compressing the time stamp. With regard to the time stamp compression, Svanbro teaches that advance knowledge obtained by empirical

observation can be used to reduce the number of bits needed to encode a relatively predictable time stamp in an application such as a real-time speech service.

In other words, Svanbro is primarily concerned only with a time stamp field, not a list. The time stamp field typically has a single, specific, structured value, as opposed to list that has unrestricted values.

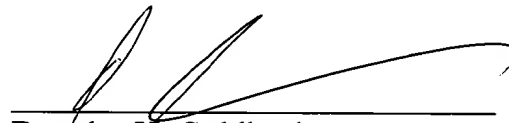
Claims 25-29 depend from claim 19. As explained above, Holmes does not teach "classifying at least one item of a current list containing a plurality of items by comparing the current list with a reference list containing a plurality of items." Svanbro also does not teach these features.

For example, Svanbro is concerned primarily with compressing a time stamp. Accordingly, there is no teaching, motivation, or suggestion for Svanbro to provide or perform "classifying at least one item of a current list containing a plurality of items by comparing the current list with a reference list containing a plurality of items." Thus, Svanbro does not remedy the deficiencies of Holmes. Accordingly, Svanbro and Holmes, taken individually or in combination do not teach all the elements of the claimed invention. In view of the above, applicants respectfully request that all of claims 1-50 be allowed, and this application pass to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
Revocation and New Power of Attorney